

**Charles L. Strickland**

26 Sept 2002

Mark Dunkelman

Dear Mr. Dunkelman,

Thank you for your letter of September 2<sup>nd</sup> and the enclosures. My delay in answering is due to the harvest season – I am a home wine maker, and we have busy picking, crushing, and making wine the past several weeks.

We enjoyed our visit with Hook France this summer in Red House. By chance we met his wife, while asking directions. The purpose of our trip was a Strickland Family reunion and to tour some of the areas my ancestors grew up in. You may be aware that Francis Strickland was one of the early settlers and the first Town Supervisor of Red House. I appreciate the enclosures you sent (although we already have them all).

During the 90's, I lost both my parents and both brothers (who were my only siblings). As a result, we inherited all the Strickland family memorabilia. We knew it was extensive, but had no idea how much was there. We have about 50 original letters from Francis to his wife while in the war, and while in the hospital after being wounded at Gettysburg. We also have about 30 letters written home by Orre Snow, who was in the Ninth N.Y. Cavalry during the Civil War. Francis and Orre were my Great Great Grandfathers, but did not know each other at the time. After the war, Francis's first son Theron Strickland met and married Mary Snow, Orre's daughter. In addition, Theron was a writer and we have two years of original newspaper columns he wrote about the weekly life in Red House around 1980.

Because this information on our ancestors is so extensive (and interesting), we have decided to put it into a book – primarily for our extensive family and relatives. The compilation is going slowly, but I hope to give it much more attention this winter. Until it is finished, we do not want to part with any of the memorabilia. I will send you a copy of the book when it is finished, and will at that time send you copies of any of the original letters that are of interest to you. Many thanks...I will stay in touch.

Sincerely,  


Chuck Strickland